

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 OPIC-03 AF-06

OMB-01 IO-10 CIEP-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 /098 W

----- 025770

R 171700Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1279

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

COMUSFORAZ

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 8086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PD

SUBJECT: STEVEDORS STRIKE IN PONTA DELGADA

ON SEPTEMBER FOURTEEN FLA DISTRIBUTED FLYERS ADMONISHING STEVEDORS TO REFUSE TO OFFLOAD M/V PONTA GARCA UNTIL DEPARTURE OF FIVE CREW MEMBERS OF SHIP WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SHIPS ADHERENCE TO STRIKE IN LISBON. FLA CLAIMED TWO WEEK DELAY OF SHIP CAUSED BY STRIKE DAMAGED AZOREAN ECONOMY AND COST STEVEDORES WORK. NEXT DAY STEVEDORS AND PORT WORKERS DID REFUSE TO SERVICE SHIP UNTIL OFFENDING CREW MEMBERS LEFT. STEVEDORS CLAIMED THIS DELAY HAD COST THEM WORK. AFTER DAY SPENT IN NEGOTIATION, THE FIVE OFFENDING CREW MEMBERS PLUS TWELVE OTHERS WHO SYMPATHIZED WITH THEM LEFT PONTA GARCA AND RETURNED TO LISBON. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MOST OF VESSELS CREW WANTED TO LEAVE BUT SKELETON CREW WAS PERSUADED TO STAY. STEVEDORS STARTED TO OFFLOAD VESSEL ON SEPTEMBER 16.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH DELAY OF PONTA GARCA INCONVIENCED SOME, IT DID NOT DAMAGE AZOREAN ECONOMY AND WOULD NORMALLY HAVE BECOME POLITICAL ISSUE. THIS IS SECOND TIME IN WEEK THAT FLA HAS

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MANUFACTURED ISSUE, OTHER WAS GEOTHERMAL CONFERENCE DEMONSTRATION.

IT IS INTERESTING THAT THIS TIME WORKING CLASS RESPONDED TO
FLAS CALL TO ACTION. NOW THAT COMMUNISTS THREAT IS RECEDING,
FLA HAS CHANGED ITS TACTICS AND NOW WILL SEEK SITUATIONS WHICH
IT CAN EXPLOIT TO KEEP IDEA OF INDEPENDENCE ALIVE. AUTHORITIES,
HOWEVER, MAY NOT BE SO TOLERANT OF THIS TYPE OF AGITATION AS
THEY WERE OF ANTICOMMUNIST ACTIONS. FLAS ABILITY TO OBTAIN
SUPPORT ON THESE ARTIFICIAL ISSUES WILL BE GOOD INDICATION OF
DEGREE OF SUPPORT INDEPENDENCE HAS ONCE AUTONOMY IS ESTABLISHED
AND COMMUNIST THREAT REMOVED.

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: PINT, EWWT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
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